

Message Text

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SUBJECT: INCREASE IN INTOURIST CHARGES FOR BUSINESS VISITORS

USDOC FOR BEWT/HEISS

REF: MOSCOW 17200

1. FURTHER TO INFORMATION REPORTED REFTEL ON INCREASE IN INTOURIST RATES FOR BUSINESS VISITORS, COMMERCIAL OFFICE HAS OBTAINED FROM LOCAL AMEXCO OFFICE COPY OF INTOURIST TELEX ANNOUNCING NEW RATES, WHICH ARE SAID TO HAVE INTO EFFECT AS OF OCTOBER 10. FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS OLD AND NEW RATES (FIGURES IN RUBLES PER DAY PER PERSON):

	OLD RATES	NEW RATES
1) DELUXE SUITE		
A) MOSCOW/LENINGRAD	82 SINGLE/45 DOUBLE	115 SINGLE/60 DOUBLE
B) ELSEWHERE	NA	100 SINGLE/52 DOUBLE
2) DELUXE		
A) MOSCOW/LENINGRAD	32 SINGLE/28 DOUBLE	57 SINGLE/31 DOUBLE
B) ELSEWHERE	NA	50 SINGLE/27 DOUBLE
3) FIRST CLASS		
A) MOSCOW/LENINGRAD	28 SINGLE/19 DOUBLE	36 SINGLE/21 DOUBLE
B) ELSEWHERE	NA	31 SINGLE/18 DOUBLE

2. COMPARISON OF OLD AND NEW RATES REVEALS THAT INCREASES

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VARY SUBSTANTIALLY FROM ONE CATEGORY TO ANOTHER, WITH LARGEST

INCREASE (ON PERCENTAGE BASIS) IN "DELUXE SINGLE" CATEGORY, WHICH IS PROBABLY MOST WIDELY USED BY U.S. BUSINESS VISITORS. INCREASES IN FIRST CLASS CATEGORY ARE RELATIVELY MODEST. COMPARISONS ARE MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY FACT THAT INTOURIST HAS ALSO APPARENTLY MADE CHANGES IN SERVICES WHICH GO ALONG WITH VARIOUS PACKAGES. THUS, DELUXE SERVICE PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED SEVEN RUBLES FOR FOOD BUT NEW RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE PROVISION FOR MEALS, WHICH MUST BE PURCHASED SEPARATELY. HOWEVER, COMMOFF UNDERSTANDS THAT DELUXE PACKAGE NOW INCLUDES CAR AND DRIVER FOR SIX HOURS EACH DAY AS OPPOSED TO THREE HOURS UNDER OLD RATES.

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